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WE CLAIM:

1 1. A method of coding video information, comprising:

2 receiving the video information,

3 identifying a video object in the video information,

4 for the video object,

5 coding a first part of the video information associated with the one video

6 object as a first video object layer, and

7 coding a second part of the video information associated with the one video

8 object as a second video object layer.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first video object layer is a base layer,

2 representing the video information at a first level of image quality

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the second video object layer is an enhancement

2 layer representing a portion of the video information not represented by the base layer.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the second video object layer represents the video

2 object at a greater spatial resolution than the first video object layer.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the second video object layer represents the video

2 object at different times than the first video object layer.

1 6. A method of decoding coded video data, the coded video data including coded first

2 and second video object layers for a video object, the method comprising:

3 receiving the coded video data,

4 decoding the coded first video object layer,

5 decoding the coded second video object layer, and

6 generating a decoded video object based upon the decoded first and second video

7 object layers.

1   7.   The method of claim 6, wherein the decoded first video object layer is a base layer
2   representing source video information at a first level of image quality.

1   8.   The method of claim 6, wherein the decoded video object includes video
2   information of the video object at a greater temporal rate than would be obtained by
3   decoding only the coded first video object layer.

1   9.   The method of claim 6, wherein the decoded second video object layer represents
2   the video object at different times than the decoded first video object layer.

1   10.   The method of claim 6, wherein the decoded second video object layer represents
2   the video object at a greater spatial resolution would be obtained by decoding only the
3   coded first video object layer.

1   11.   A method of decoding coded video data, the coded video data including coded first
2   and second video object layers, the method comprising:
3   receiving the coded video data,
4   distinguishing the coded first video object layer from the coded video data,
5   decoding the coded first video object layer, and
6   generating a decoded video object based upon the decoded first video object layer.

1   12.   A method of coding video information, comprising:
2   identifying a video object in the video information,
3   representing the video object as a series of video object planes,
4   coding a first part of the video object planes as a base video object layer, and
5   coding a second part of the video object planes as an enhancement video object
6   layer.

1   13.   The method of claim 12, wherein a first number of the video object planes are
2   coded in the base video object layer and a second number of the video object planes are
3   coded in the enhancement video object layer.

1 14. The method of claim 12, wherein a video object plane in the enhancement video
2 object layer is coded based upon a prediction made from a video object plane in the base
3 video object layer.

1 15. The method of claim 12, wherein a video object plane in the enhancement video
2 object layer is coded based on two candidates for prediction: a video object plane in base
3 video object layer and a second video object plane in enhancement layer.

1 16. The method of claim 12, wherein a video object plane in the enhancement video
2 object layer is coded based upon a prediction made from a second video object plane in
3 the enhancement video object layer.

1 17. The method of claim 12,
2   wherein the coded base and enhancement video object layers provide spatial
3 scalability,
4   wherein at least one video object plane is coded in the base video object layer at a
5 first size and the same video object plane is coded in the enhancement video object layer
6 at a second, larger size.

1 18. The method of claim 12, wherein coding of the one video object plane in the
2 enhancement video object layer is made as a prediction based upon the coding of the one
3 video object plane in the base video object layer.

1 19. The method of claim 12, wherein coding of the one video object plane in the
2 enhancement video object layer is made as a prediction based upon the coding of the one
3 video object plane in the base video object layer.

1 20. The method of claim 12, wherein the coded base and enhancement video object
2 layers provide spatial scalability wherein at least one video object plane is coded in the
3 base video object layer at a first resolution and the same video object plane is coded in the
4 enhancement video object layer at a second, larger resolution.

1   21.   A scalable video coding method providing generalized scalability, comprising:

2   identifying a video object from the video information,

3   representing the video object as a series of video object planes,

4   coding a first part of the video object planes as a base video object layer, and

5   coding a second part of the video object planes as an enhancement video object

6   layer, the coding of the coded base video object layer as a candidate for prediction

7   using a single syntax applicable for both temporal and spatial scalability.

1   22.   A method for decoding coded video data, comprising:

2   decoding a first part of the video data as a base video object layer, and

3   decoding a second part of the video data as an enhancement video object layer, the

4   decoding made as a prediction based upon the decoded base video object layer and with

5   reference to a syntax in the coded video data identifying whether temporal and spatial

6   scalability coding is present in the coded video data.

1   23.   The method of claim 22, wherein the decoding of the enhancement video object

2   layer comprises generating, for the video object layer, one of three predictions from the

3   group of:

4   a prediction from a first video object plane,

5   a prediction from a second video object plane, and

6   a prediction obtained by averaging the first and second predictions.

1   24.   The method of claim 22, wherein the coded video data identifies which of the three

2   predictions should be used for decoding the enhancement video object layer.

1   25.   The method of claim 22, wherein the coded video information represents blocks of

2   data for the enhancement video object layer and the predictions are made independently

3   on a block-by-block basis.

1   26.   The method of claim 22, wherein the coded video data identifies, on a block-by-

2   block basis, which of the three predictions should be used for decoding the enhancement

3   video object layer.